

## A BELATED CORRECTION.

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RECENT correspondence with Professor Fernald has brought to light a little matter which has proved to be of sufficient interest, possibly, to be worth putting upon record. Toward the close of a letter, he wrote: "In the last number of *Bartonia* I noted a statement which may or may not be worth while to call to the author's attention. In the note by O. H. Brown on *Juncus brachycarpus* it is stated that the species occurs at Fort Fairfield, Maine. This must have arisen through some clerical confusion for the plant at Fort Fairfield, as throughout north and central Maine, is *Juncus brachycephalus*. *J. brachycarpus* is known in New England only at the Ocean Beach and Scituate stations, the latter now apparently destroyed."

When I had found *Juncus brachycarpus* among the 1913 collection of plants from Cape May, New Jersey, which Mr. O. H. Brown had sent for identification and deposit in the Herbarium of the Philadelphia Botanical Club, I had written him of his interesting addition to the New Jersey flora, and on further correspondence over the note for *Bartonia*, I had looked up some of the more readily accessible records for the species on the Atlantic slope.

Therefore, on reading Professor Fernald's letter, my feeling of responsibility was quite definite. But instinctively being rather unwilling to immediately acknowledge to a carelessness of this character, I was at once led to the first, and the last, resource in all such cases — appropriately known as the "original source." In the Index for Volume 12 of *RHODORA* under *Juncus* was found "*brachycarpus*, . . . 112," a glance at the nearby Errata showed no reference, and on turning to the appropriate page was to be read: "But at the spring where *Kobresia elachycarpa* Fernald . . . was first found we paid our respects . . . to the colony of plant which has already supplied scores of New England herbaria with *Equisetum variegatum* Schleicher, *Triglochin palustris* L., *Calamagrostis neglecta*, *Juncus brachycarpus* (Engelm.) Buchenau and *J. alpinus* Vill." Truly a notable association of northern types among which to find *Juncus brachycarpus*, a plant characteristic of the Mississippi valley and so very local east

of the Alleghenies, but a casual and uncritical reading (by how very many more than myself!), coupled with a general and not an intimate knowledge of the plants of Maine, had allowed this to pass without comment. The author citation (which on mere reading would of course escape all but the specialist) makes it perfectly clear that the plant referred to is *Juncus brachycephalus*. But that possibly others, hapless, referring to "*Juncus brachycarpus*" at Fort Fairfield, Maine, may not have the excuse that the error was never corrected, let this be put down:

RHODORA, Vol. 12, page 112, line 28; for *brachycarpus* read *brachycephalus*.

ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES OF PHILADELPHIA.

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WOOL-WASTE PLANTS AT WESTFORD, MASSACHUSETTS.—The following plants found during the summer of 1915, mostly in a wool-waste dump, have been identified at the Gray Herbarium by Dr. B. L. Robinson and J. F. Macbride.

It is the custom of the Worsted Co. to obtain all of their wool and camel's hair from southern Europe and Asia. Two years ago, when it was difficult to obtain foreign wool, a small amount of United States wool was purchased. Yet by careful inquiry I do not learn that any wool-waste has been placed in this dump for five years. This may raise a question in regard to the introduction here of some plants which are natives of this country, when only foreign plants would be expected. For instance, I found two mallows, *Anoda triangularis* (Willd.) DC., and *Sphaeralcea Munroana* (Dougl.) Spach., the former a native of the southwestern United States and the latter common in the Rocky Mountains and portions of the Northwest.

In RHODORA, xv. 172 (1913) I reported *Erodium ciconium* L. from this dump. Last summer I collected a rather poor specimen with only imperfect fruit, which was determined for me as probably a form of *Erodium ciconium* (L.) Ait., var. *tenuisectum* Nym. There is no very authentic material of this variety in the Gray Herbarium and my specimen differs slightly from the descriptions available: The typical form and var. *tenuisectum* Nym. are covered with a fine glandular pubescence while my specimen is only puberulent without glandular hairs.